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45.

(Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the first nucleotide sequence and the second nucleotide sequence respectively encode a heavy chain variable region and a light chain variable region of immunoglobulin of a human, non-human primates, or rodent.

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(Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the first nucleotide sequence and the second nucleotide sequence respectively encode a heavy chain variable region and a light chain variable region of a human immunoglobulin.

### REMARKS

The present Amendment is in response to the Examiner's Final Office Action mailed September 25, 2001. Claims 1-15, 19, 23, 24, and 44-50 are pending.

Applicants express appreciation to the Examiner for conducting a telephone interview with Applicants on December 7, 2001. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the above amendments to the claims and the following remarks.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

#### 1. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, First Paragraph

The Examiner rejects claims 44-50 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, First Paragraph for insufficient written description.

Support for the overlapping PCR process specified in claim 44 as amended appears at page 56, line 18-29, page; Figure 3; and page 107, lines 15-28. As described in detail in Example 1 starting from page 104,  $V_H$  and  $V_L$  gene fragments are separately amplified in 2 PCR reactions from human cDNA library (page 105, lines 15-23). The 3' primer for amplifying  $V_H$  and 5' primer for amplifying  $V_L$  are designed to share the same linker sequence encoding  $(G_4S)_4$ . Thus, in the third PCR the amplified fragments of  $V_H$  and  $V_L$  are assembled into a single fragment via the overlapping linker sequence at the 3' end of  $V_H$  and the 5' end of  $V_L$ . Page 107, lines 15-24. This process is well known in the art as overlapping PCR. Thus, claims 44-50 are supported by the Specification under 35 U.S.C. § 112. Withdrawal of this ground of rejection is respectfully requested.